

Please add new claim 41.

Appendix A attached provides a marked version showing changes to claim 10.

C¹

10. (Twice amended) A method of screening a compound for its ability to induce cytochrome P-450 3A4 (CYP3A4) enzyme expression comprising:

- i) contacting said test compound with a protein comprised of a ligand binding domain of human pregnane X receptor (hPXR) said ligand binding domain including the amino acid sequence of amino acids 141-434 of SEQ ID NO 14, and
- ii) determining whether said test compound binds to said protein, and
- iii) determining whether a test compound that binds to said protein induces expression of the CYP3A4 enzyme.

C²

41. (new) A method of screening a test compound for its ability to bind to a protein comprising human pregnane X receptor ligand binding domain, thereby indicating an increased likelihood that the test compound alters in vivo expression of the cytochrome P-450 3A4 (CYP3A4) enzyme comprising:

- i) contacting said test compound with a protein comprised of a ligand binding domain of human pregnane X receptor (hPXR), said ligand binding domain including the amino acid sequence of amino acids 141-434 of SEQ ID NO 14, and
- ii) determining whether said test compound binds to said protein.

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claim 10 under 35 USC 112 second paragraph as being indefinite. The Examiner has pointed out an inconsistency in the use of the term "ligand binding domain" in the claims and the sequence listing. The inconsistency is primarily the result of an incorrect sequence listing. The claims refer to amino acids 141- 434 of SEQ ID NO 14, whereas the SEQ ID NO 14 as submitted lists only 414 amino acids. Figure 1A of the specification shows the correct sequence of the 434 amino acids intended for SEQ ID NO 14. A corrected sequence listing is submitted